

SUPPORT: HB5263, HB5270, HB5643 HB6185, SB547, SB554

OPPOSE: HB5800, SB42

I am presently outside of Connecticut, expecting to return in June 2011. I am a State Pistol Permit Holder and former Range Officer at the Edwards Air Force Base, California, small arms range where General Curtis LeMay would often maintain his proficiency. During my time and to my credit as unit commander we built a self-help M-60 machine gun range adjacent to the small arms range, the first of its kind in the United States Air Force. I submit the following statements in testimony to this committee.

1. As per any thoughts of controlling ammunition vice legislating the ownership of small arms, I suggest that that not be attempted as the US Supreme Court would no doubt turn around this legislation. Ammunition, magazines, etc. are an extension of the gun protection in the 2nd Amendment. There is precedence in this matter as that High Court has determined that a drug dog's nose is an extension of the law enforcement officer's senses. A recent case in California should be enough evidence to abandon any ideas of considering this type of issue. Pursuing this type of legislation would be costly and futile for Connecticut.

2. I fully **SUPPORT** the following bills for consideration by the Connecticut State Legislature:

HB 5263 AN ACT AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER BY MAIL. Purpose: To permit the holder of a state pistol permit to renew the permit by mail.

HB 5270 AN ACT AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF STATE PERMIT TO CARRY A PISTOL OR REVOLVER BY MAIL OR BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION. Purpose: To permit the holder of a state permit to carry a pistol or revolver to renew said permit by mail or by electronic submission

HB 5643 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CARRYING OF FIREARMS BY OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS. Purpose: To allow an out-of-state resident who holds a license or permit to carry from another state to carry firearms in this state

HB 6185 AN ACT CREATING A GUN OFFENDER REGISTRY. Purpose: To require that persons convicted of certain gun crimes register their names and addresses with the local police department for the municipality in which they reside.

SB 547 AN ACT CONCERNING FIREARMS. To revise the applicability of the statute regulating the sale, delivery and transfer of handguns and to modify the definition of "assault weapon.

SB 554 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PISTOL PERMIT APPEALS PROCESS. Purpose To set certain time limits for pistol permit appeals.

OPPOSE:

SB 42 AN ACT CONCERNING GUN SAFETY STANDARDS FOR FIRING RANGES I do believe that SB 42, is one more attempt (there have been many over the last 6 years) to shutdown one of Connecticut's older and very good ranges, i.e.- The Blue Trail Range and Gun Shop, in Wallingford. One of the few "rifle & black powder" ranges left. Sen. Meyer is a "shoreline" Senator, Branford, Madison, North Branford, etc. and the range is in Wallingford so I don't see a lot of his constituents calling him up and complaining about that.

3. I oppose **HB 5800 AN ACT REQUIRING REGISTRATION OF ALL FIREARMS** as there is no good reason to enact more cumbersome directives.

4. I suggest that this committee consider becoming friendly with the firearms industry here in Connecticut as it is not conducive to adversarial behavior to those who provide jobs in this State during negative economic times.

5. I submit the following historical commentary for your edification:

In WWII, Japan 's highest ranking naval officer was Isoroku Yamamoto. Although he was Japanese, and his loyalties were unquestionably with The Empire, he studied for many years in America, graduating from Harvard University. There is an oft-repeated (and sometimes disputed) quote attributed to him regarding the possibility of any nation taking a war to American soil:

"You cannot invade the mainland United States . There would be a rifle behind every blade of grass."

In summary, this citizen is concerned by the overregulation of the Second Amendment rights of responsible small arms owners and users. Other legislative matters to restrict these types of items being considered should be taken off the table.

Signed in absentia

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